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APR 23 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

In re application of

Docket No: Q58134

Pierre RIPCHE, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/519,847

Group Art Unit: 1731

Confirmation No.: 8169

Examiner: John M. HOFFMAN

Filed: March 06, 2000

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM INCLUDING
OUTSIDE DEPOSITION OF SILICA, POSSIBLY DOPED SILICA

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time of three months, extending the time for responding to the Final Office Action dated November 7, 2002 to May 7, 2003.

A check for the statutory fee of \$520.00 is attached (\$930.00 - \$410.00 previously paid). The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen R. Smith
Registration No. 43,042

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Date: April 23, 2003